

WORLD CHAMPION GRAPPLER

returning to global stage

By Greg James | gregj@mycityjournals.com

A former world title holder from Taylorsville has again advanced to the grappling world championships in October.

In 2011 Brandon Ruiz earned his first world championship in the No-Gi division of the United World Wrestling (UWW) Grappling World Championships. In April, he defeated three other super-heavyweights to earn another title in a long list of personal achievements.

“It is awesome to represent my country,” Ruiz said. “I take it seriously; grappling is not an Olympic sport, so this is the top of our game. I get excited to represent the United States.”

The UWW World Championships are scheduled to be held Oct. 18–19 in Baku, Azerbaijan. He has six world championships and has medaled several times in his career. He said wrestling has become a way for him to compete and still feel like part of a team.

“I think wrestling found me,” he said. “I grew up with a strong work ethic, and initially I wanted to play basketball, but I found wrestling and enjoyed it. Wrestling is an individual sport, but I liked the camaraderie with my teammates, and I could test myself and try to find ways to be fulfilling.”

Ruiz wrestles in the over-100 kilograms weight class. At 40 years old, he still competes against wrestlers nearly half his age. In most grappling and wrestling organizations, the competitors are divided by weight and age. At the Las Vegas national tournament, he was the smallest and oldest in his weight division.

He started competing in wrestling and martial arts in 1992.

Ruiz graduated from Taylorsville High School in 1995. He placed third in 1995 and fifth in 1994 at the Utah High School Activities Association state wrestling meet. He was a four-year varsity letterman at BYU and two time college All-American. He also was an Olympic training center athlete from 2003–2006.

As a walk-on freshman at BYU he quit wrestling, but at the Utah Summer Games following the season he defeated all his old BYU teammates, and they asked him to return as a scholarship athlete.

“For my serious training, I am putting in



Taylorsville resident Brandon Ruiz won a super-heavyweight national title at grappling national championships in May in Las Vegas, Nevada. (Brandon Ruiz/USA grappling)

10–12 hours of week training,” he said. “I just try to stay healthy. I think I can take advantage of someone with good strategy. Some of the younger wrestlers can take me physically, but I rely on my training and mental abilities too.”

He has trained youth wrestlers in freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestling club teams. His training of wrestlers over 175 pounds gives him training partners for his own training goals. His club, Reese Combat Grappling, has trained at Jeremy Horns Elite Performance in Sandy, and

he uses his own garage.

“I like to focus on the needs of the kids,” he said. “Plus being close to home is important to me.”

Ruiz has five kids, serves in his church organization and holds down full-time employment. He joked he finished mowing the lawn before leaving to Las Vegas for the national tournament.

As a landscape architect, he has designed projects such as the bass fishing pond and la-

brum park. He has also helped plan specifications for LDS temples and City Creek in Salt Lake.

“It is cool to see the kids by the fish at City Creek,” Ruiz said. “It is fun to see I have left a fingerprint on my community. I am a Dad and not always a full-time athlete. If I can keep my body in tune, I would like to do this another 10 years. I would like to develop my skills and pass my knowledge until the day I die.” ✦

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YMCA Healthy Kids Day a success despite budget challenges

By Carl Fauver | carlf@mycityjournals.com

“We never deny any child our services, based on their parents’ ability to pay.”

Jamie Nelson, Community Programs manager for the Taylorsville YMCA Family Center, said that’s been their philosophy from day one. But she also admits, that can lead to some lean times at the facility, just north of Fremont Elementary School (4249 South Atherton Drive, about 1500 West).

“We have a lot of wonderful donors who provide things for free or at a reduced cost,” Nelson added. “And thank goodness the city has been supportive as well.”

Perhaps the YMCA’s biggest supporter within Taylorsville government is City Councilman Ernest Burgess. The “Y” is in his council district. But he says there’s more to it than that.

“My wife has been volunteering for years, helping to teach elementary age kids how to read,” Burgess said. “It helps them get on the right track, to succeed. That’s a big priority here at the YMCA, which is why I support what they do.”

For those of us who remember things like Watergate and corduroy pants, thoughts of the YMCA likely conjure up memories of swimming pools and basketball courts. But officials say that’s not really their focus anymore, at least here in Utah.

“We found kids have access to swimming, basketball and opportunities like that, at all the different recreation centers in the area,” said YMCA of Northern Utah Salt Lake County Regional Director Sarah Ivory. “But what parents need much more than that is a safe place to drop their kids early in the morning, or to pick them up later in the evening.”

That’s why the Taylorsville community center is open from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The early arriving kids receive a hot breakfast and transportation to and from their school. Those who stay later into the evening are served a hot dinner.

“We also feed lots of kids at their elementary schools,” Ivory added. “It’s typically about 350 meals a day.”

The modest 5,000-square-foot center was built in 2010 at a cost of about \$450,000. It features two rooms primarily for preschool and kindergarten classes, an even larger multipurpose room, a full kitchen and office space.

“The land our center is on is still owned by the Granite School District, but they lease it to us for something like a dollar a year,” Ivory said.

During the recent YMCA annual “Healthy Kids Day,” youngsters and parents visited booths to learn more about proper diet, preventing child abuse, staying safe in the sun and a number of other things.

Kids also wore bubble suits to run into one another and played a variety of other games.



Top: Informational booths covered a number of topics, for kids and parents, during the YMCA event. (Carl Fauver)

Lower Left: Taylorsville City Councilman Ernest Burgess takes vegetable cleaning lessons during YMCA kids day. (Carl Fauver)

Lower Right: Cartwheel practice was an impromptu part of the annual YMCA Healthy Kids Day. (Carl Fauver)

Burgess made the rounds visiting informational booths, and soon found himself giving (or perhaps receiving, from a child) lessons on how to properly wash vegetables.

“This place is so important to these kids because many of them have nowhere to go, with proper supervision, after school,” Burgess said. “Many of them would be home alone and certainly wouldn’t have the same educational opportunities they have here.”

During a recent city council meeting the discussion turned to possible cuts in community development block grant (CDBG) funds. Burgess was quick to remind the council, “When we cut funding to the YMCA, Taylorsville kids lose meals. So we need to look at that very care-

fully and understand what we are cutting.”

Now that school is out for the summer, YMCA Community Family Center staff members are focusing attention on coordinating day camps, field trips and even weeklong excursions into the mountains.

The center employs about 40 people; most of them work part time.

“We are always looking for volunteers,” Nelson said. “We’re providing a safe place for kids, filled with extracurricular activities. They receive hot meals, snacks and as much one-on-one attention as possible.”

Those interested in donating time or finances to the Taylorsville YMCA Community Family Center should call 801-839-3388. ✦

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Seven file for three Taylorsville City elected posts; 26,000-plus voters to receive mailed ballots in July

By Carl Fauver | carlf@mycityjournals.com

Two incumbents want to remain in their positions. A third is retiring from her elected post. One current city council member hopes to replace the mayor. And four political newcomers—two of them under age 25—have also thrown their hats into the ring.

What many expected to be a relatively quiet Taylorsville City municipal election this year, became a bit more interesting when a total of seven candidates filed to run for two council positions and the mayoral post.

Also, because there are three candidates for mayor, a primary election will be necessary, adding tens of thousands of dollars to the total Taylorsville will have to pay Salt Lake County, to conduct the city's first-ever vote-by-mail municipal election.

In the mayor's race, first-term incumbent Larry Johnson is seeking re-election. He's challenged by District 2 City Councilwoman Kristie Overson and BYU political science major Harry Hansen.

In the Council District 4 race, eight-year incumbent Dama Barbour announced months ago she would not seek a third term. Filing for the race to fill her seat are Ron Allred and Meredith Harker, who are each brand-new to campaigning for office.

And in Council District 5, the age difference between the two candidates is 45 years, between incumbent Dan Armstrong and University of Utah student John Fuller.

City Recorder Cheryl Cottle said ballots will be mailed to all registered voters in Taylorsville, starting July 25. As of last fall, that number was 26,097.

Earlier this year, the city council voted to contract with the county to conduct the municipal election at a cost not to exceed \$107,950. It was understood if no primary election was required the cost would be significantly less, because only one mailing would be required.

There also would have been some savings if the primary race was for a council seat, because then only residents of that district would receive primary election ballots by mail.

But because the only three-person race is for mayor, city leaders are now expected to pay nearly the entire cost for the county to conduct both the primary and final elections.

Municipal primary election day for cities across Utah is Aug. 15. That will give voters more than two weeks after receiving their ballots by mail to return them with prepaid postage.

Additionally, there will be designated vote centers where residents can drop their ballots off if they don't want to mail them.

On the November final Election Day, Taylorsville City residents can cast their ballots in person at one of about 40 election centers



Mayor Larry Johnson (left) and City Councilman Dan Armstrong have each filed for re-election. (Carl Fauver)



City Councilwoman Kristie Overson is one of three candidates for Taylorsville mayor. (Carl Fauver)



Meredith Harker is running for the vacant District 4 council seat. (Carl Fauver)

throughout the Salt Lake Valley.

"The vote-by-mail computer network allows residents of any Salt Lake County municipality to vote at any election center on Election Day," Cottle said. "It should be much more convenient."

County Clerk Sherrie Swensen said the shift to vote-by-mail in recent years has led to a sharp increase in voter turnout. Taylorsville City is one of the last municipalities in the county to shift to the format, from the traditional Election Day-only balloting.

Final Election Day is Nov. 7. Taylorsville voters will receive their ballots a couple of weeks ahead of that date in order to have time to consider their selections before returning them.

The Taylorsville candidates represent a wide range in terms of age, political experience and goals for the city.

Mayor's Race

Harry Hansen (24, single, BYU student) – "My demographic is the most underrepresented in Utah, 18- to 30-year-olds. I feel there is a chance I can win this race; otherwise I wouldn't run. And even if I don't (win), I at least want to get my message out and show people how



John Fuller is challenging incumbent Dan Armstrong for his District 5 city council seat. (John Fuller)



Harry Hansen faces two political veterans, including the incumbent, to be Taylorsville's next mayor. (Harry Hansen)



Ron Allred is running for the vacant District 4 council seat. (Ron Allred)

important it is to be involved."

Larry Johnson (66, married, four children, businessman, incumbent) – "I want to continue moving forward with economic development and cautious tax spending. I'm proud we have not had to raise taxes during my first term. Public safety and beautifying the city also remain top priorities."

Kristie Overson (59, married, five children, District 2 City Councilwoman) – "I am committed and dependable. People know I will get things done. I hope voters will look at my track record and my ability to reach out. Prior to my time on the city council I was a planning commission member for 11 years."

Council District 4 Race

Ron Allred (69, married, four children, semi-retired insurance quality reviewer) – "I want to see Taylorsville be a jewel among Salt Lake Valley cities. I am committed to keeping taxes low and helping senior citizens. I hope to serve on the city council as a way of paying back the community."

Meredith Hawker (40, married, four children, elementary school teacher) – "My priorities include public safety, economic development, transportation alternatives, family-friendly neighborhoods and fiscal responsibility. I would like to see improvements in open space and a city trail system. I believe my experience as a former county and state delegate will also be an asset."


Council District 5 Race

Dan Armstrong (64, married, seven children, CPA firm owner, incumbent) – "I want to continue the council's work to beautify Taylors-

ville and clean up blighted areas. I also like to run a tight fiscal ship and believe we have been doing that successfully. I'm very pleased and impressed with our city employees and look forward to continuing to work with them."


John Fuller (19, single, U of U student) – "I was encouraged to run by the

Emerging Leaders of Utah Initiative. Millennials represent the largest voting bloc in our state, but only about 11 percent of us vote. We're doing pretty well as a city, but I want to reach out to get more people involved." ✦



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Lots of new sidewalks, curb cuts going into Taylorsville this summer

By Carl Fauver | carlf@mycityjournals.com

The curb appeals of several southeastern Taylorsville homes are getting an upgrade this summer, courtesy of city leaders.

“This is one of the biggest capital improvement projects we’ve undertaken in years,” said Public Works Inspector Lyle Hansen. “There aren’t many streets like these left in the city, with major sections that have no sidewalks. This will give the area a completely new look.”

Hansen is the city’s only “in-house” public works employee. He said all Taylorsville capital improvements go out to bid, including the position of city engineer, now held by Shay Smith, a division manager for Forsgren Associates, Inc.

“I have been Taylorsville City engineer for about 18 months,” Smith said. “Our firm has had the city’s engineering contract for longer than that, but I hold the title for now.”

Smith agrees that the curb and sidewalk project now underway on 1300 West and 6235 South is among the biggest Taylorsville has undertaken in some time.

“Jordan Valley Construction won the project bid, at just under \$900,000,” Smith added. “Several major new sections of sidewalk are being put in, where they have never been before.”

New sidewalk is being installed on the east side of 1300 West, from 6235 South to about 6600 South. The street connecting 1300 West to Redwood Road (1700 West) is at 6235 South for three blocks, but then jogs to connect with Redwood at 6200 South.

“They are putting in sidewalks on both the north and south sides of that road,” Smith said. “Most of it is brand-new.”

In addition to that work, crews are also making improvements at Vista and Cabana parks. About \$250,000 in new playground equipment has been installed at Vista Park (2000 West 5100 South).

At the site of the old Cabana Club swimming pool (1566 West Conifer Way, about 4600 South) crews are transforming the traditional summer gathering spot into a half-acre park with playground equipment, barbecues, walking trails and a pavilion.

“Last year, we demolished the (Cabana Club) building and pool, while also removing several dying trees,” City Community Development Director Mark McGrath said. “This creation of a new neighborhood park is something the residents suggested.”

To help with work at the Cabana Club site, city officials applied for and won a \$14,000 grant from the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District because of the effort undertaken to reduce water consumption at the site.

City leaders are also making improvements to help prevent flooding to homes near the Jordan River, around 4200 South.

“Crews are installing back-water check valves in some



New sidewalks and curb cuts are going into the area around 1300 West 6235 South. (Carl Fauver)

spots near Riverboat Drive,” Smith said. “These will help prevent flooding to homes, when the Jordan River level rises.”

Smith said check valves are installed on storm drain lines that lead into the Jordan River. The valves allow water to continue running freely into the river. But if the river rises—pushing water back up the pipes—the valves block it from pushing back completely to the drains.

“I’m impressed with how dedicated (Taylorsville City) is to public works improvements,” Smith added. “This year, the 1300 West sidewalk project is a big one. And I know, for next year they are working to budget enough money to complete fencing projects along 3200 West.

“It’s easy to tell Taylorsville City ranks capital improvements high in its priorities. They are good to work with and residents should be pleased with their efforts.”

City officials have also emphasized improved lighting, by replacing broken or dim street lamp bulbs in many locations. Mayor Larry Johnson and city council members have repeatedly said that effort is in keeping with their public safety first philosophy.

Most of the work on the city’s improvement projects is expected to be completed before the weather turns this fall. At the new Cabana Park, plans are underway to host a ribbon-cutting ceremony when the work is completed. ✦



Kristie

Steadman Overson



Taylorsville Mayor



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Regal dollar movie days a hit with Taylorsville residents and developers banking on the theater's success

By Travis Barton | travis@mycityjournals.com

The brand-new (and only) Taylorsville movie theater is thriving, helping to draw new businesses into the shopping area between 5400 South and I-215, on the west side of Redwood Road.

But a small army of youngsters—wearing fluorescent orange T-shirts—really couldn't care less about that.

The 5- to 12-year-old Tilley Time Child Care students were much more thrilled to be invading the Regal Crossroads 14 & RPX cinema to see "Ice Age: Collision Course," and to put their recliner chairs through thorough workouts.

"We've taken the kids to other theaters for dollar movies in years past, but this is our first time here, because it's brand-new," said Tilley Time owner Deborah Tilley. "It's a very affordable outing and quite close to our center."

Taylorsville resident Lori Larsen also took her three kids to the first Regal dollar movie of the summer season.

"We come her a lot—the kids love the reclining seats," she said. "This is a great program (Regal Entertainment) provides. It's a huge savings."

Then Larsen added something that is music to the ears of the developers who have invested millions in the area.

"Since we've started coming to the theater more and more, I've also started shopping in this area more," Larsen said. "We used to go to Valley Fair Mall, but now I'm finding about everything we need here."

Bingo.

"We were confident when the Regal opened (in mid-March) it would help draw attention to the area," said Bill Stone, a principal with San Diego, California-based S Squared Development. "These first three months have been strong for the theater, generating a lot of interest among business owners looking for space."

The entire area features about 725,000 square feet of retail space in several buildings. Stone says about 75 percent of that is now occupied, while active lease negotiations are underway for nearly all of what remains vacant.

"I can't divulge the names of many of the businesses yet, because we are still talking with

them," Stone added. "But I know people will be excited."

One development that is on record is construction of a new TJ Maxx store, west of Shopko.

"It's expected to open in time for back to school shopping," Stone said. "The store is 21,500 square feet."

One of the largest vacant structures in the complex is the long-closed Sports Authority building, at the south end of the development. Stone says that 45,000-square-foot site should also soon have a new look.

"All I can say so far is, if the negotiations continue as they are now it will be a new entertainment site," Stone said. "The new tenant plans to keep the shell of the building but completely change the interior and outside façade."

Stone credits much of S Square Development's recent success in filling business space to the success of the Regal Crossroads 14 & RPX cinema.

"We're seeing the movie theater do exactly what we hoped it would: generating more interest in the area," Stone added. "Ticket sale numbers at the theater are continuing to improve. We believe by the end of summer—as more people become familiar with it—the Regal will be one of the leading theaters in all of Utah."

During its grand opening in March, Regal officials said they are evaluating possible additional theater locations in the state. So far, though, the company has not announced any new plans for the state.

That's probably not a big concern to Deborah Tilley's day care kids either.

They only need this Regal for their dollar movie summer.

Dollar movies run Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. The discount series began June 6 and is scheduled to run through Aug. 2.

In an era when the drumbeat of store closures seems constant, Regal appears to be helping Crossroads of Taylorsville developers to buck the trend. Online shopping may be winning the nationwide retail war, but the empty storefront battle around the movie theater appears to be taking a turn for the better. ✦



Tilley Time Child Care students loved their dollar movie, particularly the theater's reclining seats. (Carl Fauver)

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Taylorsville mayor touts economic growth, increased tax revenues in State of the City address

By Carl Fauver | carlf@mycityjournals.com

With sales tax revenues up by more than two-thirds of a million dollars and city debt down more than \$4 million since he took office, Taylorsville Mayor Larry Johnson had plenty of good news to share during his first-ever State of the City address.

"In the past three years, we have reduced the city's debt obligations from \$12.9 million to \$8.6 million," Johnson told a gathering of about 50 residents, elected officials and city staffers. "We have accomplished this without a tax increase. And our sales tax (revenues) have increased \$668,000 since 2014."

Johnson said he's proud of the city's accomplishments during his first term in office. And he's also proud of his Taylorsville roots.

"I grew up here in Taylorsville," he said. "My Mom, sister and I lived with my grandparents on a small farm, just a few blocks from where city hall is now located. I can honestly say I have never been more excited to live here in our wonderful community. There are so many remarkable things happening in the city."

The former operator of a family business in Taylorsville (J & J Tire), Johnson said he came to his elected position with experience balancing books and making payroll.

"When I was elected, I decided to roll up my sleeves and get to work," he said. "I knew I needed to approach the job with the same energy and enthusiasm that I did with my own company."

Working with the city council and staffers, Johnson said one of his top priorities was to streamline Taylorsville government to make it more cost efficient.

"By reorganizing departments and making hard decisions, we have reduced government spending by a total of \$1.1 million," he said.

Some of the city's reorganized departments include the courts, attorney's office, and the building and economic development departments.

City officials have also aggressively sought to refill vacant store fronts over the past several years.

"When I was elected, we were in the middle of a downturn in the economy," Johnson said. "Nearly every day, Economic Development Director Wayne Harper and I promote the city to business and commercial developers."

Johnson said part of that effort has included attending the annual conference of the International Council of Shopping Centers. Johnson said contacts made there have led to the sale and revitalization of the area



Top: About 50 people attended Taylorsville Mayor Larry Johnson's State of the City address. (Carl Fauver)

Lower Left: Taylorsville Mayor Larry Johnson is optimistic during his State of the City address. (Carl Fauver)

Lower Right: Taylorsville Mayor Larry Johnson reports sales tax growth and debt reduction during his speech. (Carl Fauver)

formerly known as the Family Center.

Now called the Crossroads of Taylorsville (south and west of Harmons near Redwood Road and 5600 South), the site is home to the new 60,000-square-foot Regal Crossroads 14 & RPX movie theater.

"If you have not been there to see a movie, I highly recommend it," Johnson said in his address. "The Regal Theater is amazing."

Johnson is also proud to have played a role in the scheduled construction of a near half-billion dollar housing project, on 6200 South, just east of Bangerter Highway.

"Ground will soon be broken on the new Summit Vista life plan community," he said. "It is a more than \$450 million private de-

velopment, to be built on one of the largest remaining (land) parcels in the city."

Also during his speech, Johnson discussed the future Mid-Valley Performing Arts Center, improvements at city parks and the community senior center, as well as safety repairs at crosswalks and in city lighting. He noted crime in Taylorsville is down 10 percent over the past year. He also reminded residents, the city is now home to a brand-new Unified Fire Authority station.

After his State of the City address, Johnson said, "I know some mayors give these kinds of speeches every year, but I wanted to wait until I truly had a lot of good news to share." ✦



Emergency

Emergency	911
Unified Police Department Dispatch	801-743-7000
<i>(Non-Emergencies)</i>	
Fire Department	801-743-7200
Poison Control Center	1-800-222-1222

Frequently Called Numbers

Animal Control Shelter	801 -965 -5800
Animal Control After Hours Dispatch	801 -840 -4000
Building Inspection	801 -955 -2030
Chamber West <i>(Chamber of Commerce)</i>	801 -977 -8755
Gang Tip Line	385 -468 -9768
Garbage/Recycle/GreenWaste Pick-up <i>(Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling)</i>	385 -468 -6325
Granite School District	385 -646 -5000
Health Department	385 -468 -4100
Highway Conditions <i>(from cell phone)</i>	511
Park Reservations	385 -468 -7275
Public Works <i>(Salt Lake County)</i>	385 -468 -6101
Questar	801 -324 -5000
Rocky Mountain Power	888 -221 -7070
Salt Lake County Recycling/Landfill	801 -974 -6920
Taylorsville - Bennion Imp. District	801 -968 -9081
Taylorsville Food Pantry	801 -815 -0003
Taylorsville Senior Center	801 -293 -8340
Taylorsville Neighborhood Compliance	801 -955 -2013
Taylorsville Justice Court	801 -963 -0268
Taylorsville Library	801 -943 -4636
Taylorsville Recreation Center	385 -468 -1732
Swimming Pool <i>(Memorial Day to Labor Day)</i>	801 -967 -5006
Taylorsville -Bennion Heritage Center	801 -281 -0631
UDOT Region 2	801 -975 -4900
Utah Transit Authority (UTA)	801 -743 -3882

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

The Fourth of July is a time to celebrate our great Nation's independence and commemorate the determination, strength, and vision of our Founding Fathers. We are blessed to live in a country that affords us freedom and opportunity. I hope that we also recognize and thank the men and women of our United States Armed Forces selflessly sacrificing to protect our freedom, preserve our ideals, and safeguard our security. I wish you a happy, safe, and fun Fourth of July.

—Mayor Johnson



Mayor
Larry Johnson



MAYOR'S CHOICE

RESTAURANT

Artic Circle (two locations)

Taylorsville - Redwood • 4796 S Redwood Rd
Taylorsville, Utah 84123 • Phone: 801-969-2762

Taylorsville – Westwood • 2650 West 4700 South
Taylorsville, Utah 84118 • Phone: 801-967-3116

Favorite Menu Item – Strawberry Shake



BUSINESS

America First Credit Union

2715 West 5400 South
Taylorsville, Utah 84118

Phone: 801-966-5553

www.americafirst.com

2017 Taylorsville Municipal Election

The City of Taylorsville will hold a Municipal General Election on November 7, 2017 to elect a Mayor and two City Council Members (one from Council District 4 and one from Council District 5) to serve four-year terms. A Municipal Primary Election will also be held on August 15, 2017 for the mayoral candidates. The candidates who have filed and qualified for the election are:

Mayor - Four-Year Term

Harry Lloyd Hansen

Kristie Steadman Overson

Larry Johnson

Council Member – District 4 – Four-Year Term

Meredith Harker

Ronald Allred

Council Member – District 5 – Four-Year Term

Daniel Jon Armstrong

John E. Fuller

The election will be conducted through vote by mail and all registered voters will be mailed a ballot prior to the election. Completed ballots may be returned by mail in the postage-paid envelope provided. Those who prefer to vote in person on machines may still do so during the Early Voting period held two weeks prior to the election at Taylorsville City Hall (days/hours to be determined), or on Election Day from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at one of the many Vote Centers located throughout Salt Lake County (locations to be announced at a later date).

For additional information, please visit the City's website at www.taylorsvilleut.gov or contact City Recorder Cheryl Peacock Cottle at 801-963-5400.



Chief Jay Ziolkowski

FIREWORKS SAFETY TIPS

by Jay Ziolkowski

Recommendations provided by UFA Public Relations in connection with Web-based reference

Summer is here, and with it come exciting events, celebrations, and fun! Part of the excitement is the viewing and lighting off fireworks. However, this enjoyment brings with it potential risk.

The National Safety Council advises the safest way to view fireworks is through public displays, conducted by professionals. Recognizing that many here in Utah enjoy both the professional, as well as their own personal and neighborhood displays, UFA recommends the following safety tips:

- Ensure you are lighting off approved fireworks in authorized areas only. Some areas within the Salt Lake valley prohibit the use of fireworks – and in Taylorsville, this includes open fields along the Jordan River.
- Obey all local laws regarding the use of fireworks.
- Know your fireworks; read the cautionary labels and performance descriptions before igniting.
- A responsible adult should supervise all firework activities. Never give fireworks to young children.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save your alcohol for after the show.
- Wear safety glasses when shooting fireworks.
- Light one firework at a time and then quickly move away.
- Use fireworks OUTDOORS in a clear area; away from buildings and vehicles.
- Never relight a “dud” firework. Wait 20 minutes before re-approaching and then soak it in a bucket of water.
- Always have a bucket of water and charged water hose nearby.
- Never carry fireworks in your POCKET or shoot them from or into METAL or GLASS containers.
- Do not experiment with homemade fireworks.
- Dispose of spent fireworks by wetting them down and place in a metal trash can away from any building or combustible materials until the next day.
- FAA regulations PROHIBIT the possession and transportation of fireworks in your checked baggage or carry-on luggage.
- Report illegal explosives, like M-80s and quarter sticks, to UFA or Unified Police.

Pets:

- Do not bring your pets to a fireworks display, even a small one.
- If fireworks are being used near your home, put your pet in a safe, interior room to avoid exposure to the sound.
- Make sure your pet has an identification tag, in case it runs off during a fireworks display.
- Never shoot fireworks of any kind (consumer fireworks, sparklers, fountains, etc.) near pets.

COUNCIL CORNER

June was a busy month for all at Taylorville City Hall. Here are some of the Highlights from June 2017:

- We just celebrated another birthday with Taylorsville Dayzz. As a Council, we wanted to thank the Taylorsville Dayzz Committee for all their hard work. UFA and UPD did a great job with safety and security. City staff put in a lot of hours too! Thanks to all those who participated to make this such a fun and safe event!
- The City Council adopted a conservative and balanced 2017-2018 City Budget with NO tax increase, thanks to Administrative Staff for all their hard work!
- The Ground Breaking at Summit Vista on 3200 W and 6200 S Welcome! – We are looking

forward to this great project!

- Sales tax receipts to the City have returned to the high water mark that was set in 2008. It has been a slow and steady climb from the downturn during the Great Recession, but through hard work, recruiting, investing, and patience – businesses have returned and are continuing to return to Taylorsville!

We hope you enjoy Independence Day on July 4th and Pioneer Day on July 24th. May we remember the freedoms we enjoy because of those who have safeguarded our liberties for over 240 years, and those who settled this great state as they searched to safeguard their liberties as well! Happy Birthday to our Country and to the founding of our State!



Council Chairman Brad Christopherson – District #3 bchristopherson@taylorsvilleut.gov	Council Member Dama Barbour – District #4 dbarbour@taylorsvilleut.gov	Council Member Ernest Burgess – District #1 eburgess@taylorsvilleut.gov	Council Member Kristie Overson – District #2 koverson@taylorsvilleut.gov	Council Vice-Chair Dan Armstrong – District #5 darmstrong@taylorsvilleut.gov
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www.taylorvilleut.gov



Hosted by the City of
Taylorsville and the
Taylorsville Arts Council

Tuesday, July 18th, 2017
8:00 PM

Alder Amphitheater
SLCC Campus

Deadline is Friday, July 14th

Cash Prizes!

Adult Winner: \$100 Young Adult Winner: \$75
Junior Winner: \$50 Child Winner: \$25

Plus, live on-stage performances at TaylorsvilleDayzz

Open entry in 4 age groups

- Child Class: 12 and younger
- Junior Class: ages 13-18
- Young Adult Class: ages 19-25
- Adult Class: 26 and older

\$5 per person entrant fee



Applications are available at
City Hall, Taylorsville Library
or online at taylorsvilleut.gov

Continuous Flow?

Is your landscape sprinkler stop-and-waste valve or sprinkler valves leaking? Does your toilet tank continue to fill time after time? Is the kitchen sink doing that drip, drip, drip thing? If you received a notice in the message box on your bill it means the water meter has registered a continuous flow of water to your property for more than 15 consecutive days.



This may indicate a leak in your system, small or large, that is increasing your usage. Take the time this Summer to find and repair those unknown leaks in your plumbing system that will save water and your money. If you have any questions regarding this article, please contact our office at Taylorsville-Bennion Improvement District: 801-968-9081 or visit our Continuous Flow website page at www.tbid.org for additional information.



Taylorsville Arts Council presents:



July 12,13,14,15, and 17
SLCC Alder Amphitheater
8:00 p.m.

Tickets \$8/each Family Pass \$30





THANK YOU TO THE TAYLORSVILLE
DAYZZ 5k & KIDS RACE PARTICIPANTS,
SPONSORS & VOLUNTEERS!

A special thank you to Kirstin Johnson & Jennifer Andrus for organizing this annual event.



5k & KIDS RACE RESULTS AVAILABLE AT:
www.taylorsvilledayzz5k.com





**Are you looking for an opportunity to participate, and get involved?
Do you want to share your time and talents to build our community?**

The Taylorsville Leisure Activities, Recreation & Parks (L.A.R.P) Committee is seeking new members at this time. We are looking for volunteers to meet monthly and participate in our planned activities that include:

- Beautification awards for the best-kept yards/landscaping, Halloween & Holiday Outdoor Décor
- The Remember Me Rose Garden
- A Fall Festival that we are planning for October 14, 2017, at Taylorsville Park

The activities we are planning for our Fall Festival include a Halloween Costume Parade for children, adults, and dogs. In addition to music, a movie in the park (Halloween Theme), share the harvest, and a pumpkin carving contest.

Residents interested in serving on the Taylorsville Leisure Activities, Recreation & Parks (L.A.R.P) Committee are invited to submit a volunteer application located on the City of Taylorsville website at www.taylorsvilleut.gov or call the City Offices for additional information at (801) 963-5400

The Taylorsville Leisure Activities, Recreation and Parks Committee (LARP) is seeking nominations for our Best of Taylorsville - Residential and Business Beautification Award



Winners will be chosen between May 2017 and October 2017. The award will be presented to a home and/or business that best demonstrates excellent care and beautification of property. Size and value of property will not be a factor in judging.

Winners will be recognized at a regular meeting of the Taylorsville City Council will receive a certificate & gift from Great Harvest Bread Co. Please include name, address, phone number, and e-mail address of nomination. Contact information of person making the nomination is optional.

PLEASE SEND YOUR NOMINATIONS TO:
LARP@TAYLORSVILLEUT.GOV



Hosted by Taylorsville Public Safety Committee

NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017

6:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.

OUTSIDE AT TAYLORSVILLE CITY HALL

Meet your Public Safety Experts, UPD Motorcycles, UFA Fire Trucks, National Guard Climbing Wall, Emergency Preparedness Trailer, Scouting Merit Badge Opportunities, K-9 Demonstration & More!



NEW BUSINESSES

Welcome to Taylorsville!

Batres Insurance Agency

5255 South 4015 West
Insurance Agency

SMKW Inc

5469 Redwood Road
Facial Spa

The Vietnamese Community of Utah

1769 West 4160 South
Community Center

Wasatch Pizza

2250 West 5400 South
Pizza Restaurant

Memos Fruit

2160 West 4700 South
Fruit Stand



CURBSIDE GLASS RECYCLING PROGRAM COMING TO TAYLORSVILLE

This summer, a subscription-based curbside glass recycling service is available for Taylorsville residents. The start-up fee for the 32-gallon gray glass recycling bin is \$45, and service is \$8 per month. Service to your neighborhood will be dependent upon acquiring a minimum number of subscribers in your area. Please visit our website or come in to our office, for more information, and to sign up



FIREWORKS DISPOSAL

The summer holidays are quickly approaching. Fireworks and barbecues are common ways to celebrate. We remind all residents that fireworks and fire pit/barbecue ashes must be completely cooled before placing them in the waste cans. Smoldering fireworks or embers can melt the plastic of the can and create a larger fire hazard.



Green Waste Subscription Program

On July 3rd, Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling Day will join other organizations around the world in support of International Plastic Bag Free Day (<http://www.plasticbagfreeday.org/>). There are a lot of good ways to celebrate, and the easiest requires a simple resolution from each individual. Even if just for one day, choose paper over plastic; or even better, bring your own bags to the retailers to pick up your goods. Some stores even offer discounts or other perks for the customers that bring their own reusable bags!



Like Us on Facebook

Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District is on Facebook. Please "like" our Facebook page. This is the best and quickest way to notify you of tips, issues, and important announcements that may impact your service.

604 South 6960 West, Midvale UT 84047 • wasatchfrontwaste.org
Office: 385-468-6325 • Fax: 385-468-6330 •
info@wasatchfrontwaste.org



WHY LICENSE YOUR PET?

By Nathan Beckstead, Field Supervisor

How would it be if 85% of the dogs brought into the shelter went home within 24 hours? How about a 97% save rate on animals that enter the shelter? In Calgary, Canada and Spokane, Washington these are realities. The City of Taylorsville and West Valley City animal shelter is a "No Kill" shelter; and we have great stats like a 93% save rate, but how do we go from innovative and great to inspirational? One of the simplest answers to that question is license our dogs and cats.

Forget about the fact that licensing is the law and failure to do so could result in fines. A license is your pet's best and fastest method home. In 13 years as an Animal Control Officer I have seen the best pet owners have their pets get out and never get back home. These "escapes" sometimes were not even the owners fault: A neighbor's kid threw a baseball through a window and the dog found its way out, weather caused a fence to blow down, or the worst - a break in which results in the pet escaping.

While unfortunate situations like those previously mentioned do happen, most of the time it is just the sheer chaos of life that causes our pets to escape. How many of us have crazy mornings trying to get the kids ready for school while getting ourselves ready for work; the Sunday morning hustle to make church on time; or the exhaustion of coming home from work only to have dinner to make still? All of us could accidentally leave the door open just enough a paw could open it up or run to the car and not take the time to put the dog on a leash because "Rover" never leaves our side. I can tell you that I have heard and seen every reason you can imagine for a pet getting loose or running off when it never has happened before.

The saddest part of all this is that great owners who just don't license sometimes take days to find their lost pet and sometimes never get them back. And the worst is when we, as Animal Control Officers, pick up a pet that has been injured or is ill and needs more vet care than we can offer. Why do things like this happen? Because when the Animal Control Officer picked up the dog or cat they didn't know where to take it; so, it goes to the shelter. If "Rover" just had a license then in most situations Animal Control would deliver "Rover" back home. This would also save you, the owner, shelter fees that need to be charged when a pet has to stay with us.

A pet license truly is your dog or cats ride home should something ever happen. So if we could reach 90% compliance for licensing like Calgary, Canada then not only would we be leaders in this area, we would also be showing that we truly care about animal welfare, care, and control. So please get your pet's rabies vaccination and then come to City Hall or the Animal Shelter and license your pet. Make an Animal Control Officers day by giving them the means to bring your beloved pet home.



ZIKA VIRUS

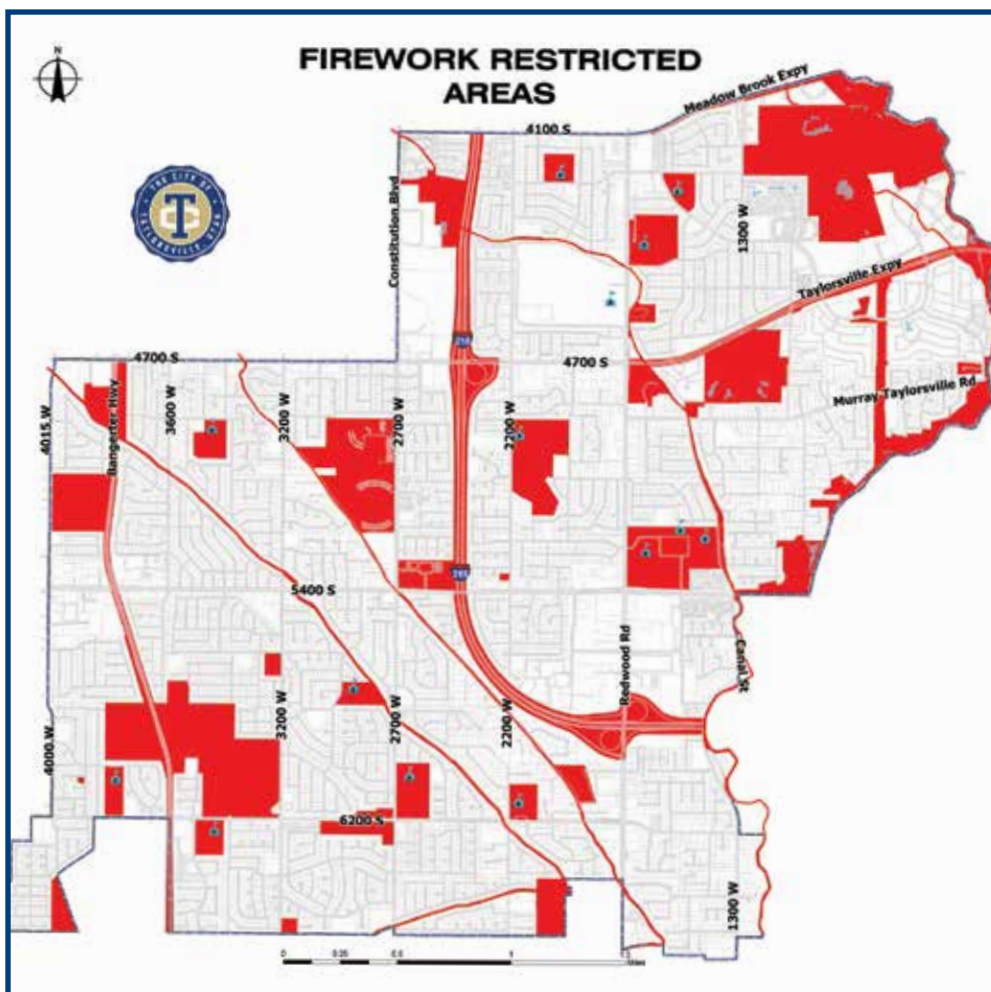
Zika virus has made headlines in recent months in response to a sharp increase in reported disease incidence especially in Central and South America. Travel related cases of Zika virus have also been reported in the United States, including in Utah. The mosquito species *Aedes aegypti* has been implicated as the primary vector responsible for much of the recent Zika virus transmission. Inasmuch as Utah is outside the current range of *Aedes aegypti* and other mosquito species suspected to be potential vectors of Zika virus, local transmission of Zika virus by mosquitoes in Salt Lake County is unlikely.

A pattern of range expansion into areas not previously inhabited in the United States has been observed in some mosquito species, including vectors of Zika virus and other diseases. Efforts to reduce the likelihood of successful establishment of inadvertently introduced mosquito species would therefore be prudent.

Water accumulated in artificial containers of all shapes and sizes frequently found in urban and suburban settings is among the preferred habitat for some potentially invasive mosquito species including competent disease vectors. Such habitat is also well suited for local mosquitoes capable of spreading West Nile virus. Eliminating unnecessary standing water in discarded containers, tires, clogged rain gutters, etc. and treating desirable standing water with mosquito control products can help prevent development of mosquitoes and thereby reduce the risk of establishment of introduced mosquito species and control the population of indigenous mosquitoes, including vectors of West Nile virus.

The South Salt Lake Valley Mosquito Abatement District works hard to control mosquitoes before they become a nuisance or health risk by monitoring mosquito populations, applying mosquito control treatments as needed, and responding promptly to concerns about mosquitoes.

For additional information about mosquitoes and mosquito control or to submit a request for service please visit www.sslvmad.org. Additional information about Zika virus and other mosquito-borne diseases can be obtained from the Salt Lake County Health Department, or Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



City of Taylorsville Firework Restrictions

Please keep in mind the City of Taylorsville Firework Restrictions (Ordinance 13-14). The discharge of fireworks is prohibited within those areas of the city described on the map.

Violation of this Ordinance shall be a Class B Misdemeanor.

New equipment, same old problems for WVC, Taylorsville Animal Services

By Carl Fauver | carlf@mycityjournals.com

How would you like to pay \$500 a year to license your dog or cat?

No, that's not happening here in Utah; but there are some places—including Spokane, Washington and Calgary, Canada—where hundreds of dollars are charged annually for pet licenses.

"We certainly aren't suggesting that," Animal Services Field Supervisor Nathan Beckstead said during a recent report to the Taylorsville City Council. "But we do need to do something, because more and more people are not getting their pets licensed."

During the first quarter of this year, 563 pet licenses were sold by Animal Services to Taylorsville residents. That's down from the 676 licenses sold during the same quarter, a year ago.

"We're proud to operate a 'no-kill' shelter," Beckstead said. "The best way to avoid having to put animals down is for owners to license them. We are then able to return lost dogs and cats to their owners much more quickly."

Costs to license animals (also including ferrets and pot belly pigs) is \$5 to \$35, depending on whether the animals are sterilized or microchipped. West Valley City residents can license pets at the animal shelter or city hall. Taylorsville residents can go to either of those locations or Taylorsville City Hall.

To license your pet, Animal Services officials say you must be at least 18 years old and provide a copy of the most recent rabies vaccination verification and a sterilization certificate if your pet is spayed or neutered.

West Valley City and Taylorsville have operated a combined Animal Services department since 2007, when Taylorsville officials approached the existing agency about joining forces.

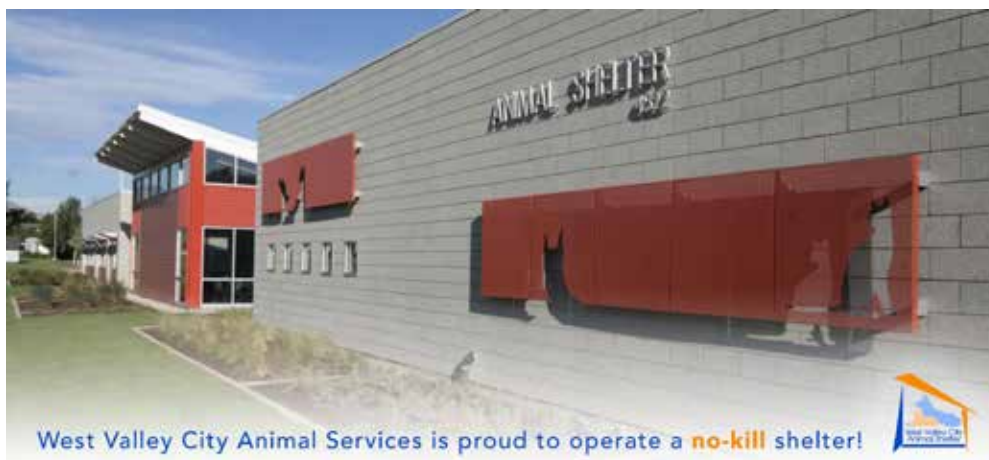
"Taylorsville pays about one-third of our budget," said Animal Services Director David Moss. "Our annual budget is about \$1.2 million, and we employ 19 people."

After Taylorsville partnered with West Valley, Beckstead said their calls for response numbers grew from about 5,600 per year to 8,600.

"That was about the same time we were moving from our old facility to our current location (4522 West 3500 South)," Moss said. "It was good timing because we were adding the extra room and a few more employees."

Animal shelter personnel take a lot of pride in their facility.

"Our shelter doesn't have a bad odor like many of them do," Moss said. "We work hard to make sure that's the case. For example, when we change out litter boxes, our staff doesn't just change the sand. They remove everything, and the boxes are washed before they



West Valley City Animal Services is proud to operate a no-kill shelter!



Top: The WVC and Taylorsville Animal Shelter is at 4522 West 3500 South. (wvcpets.com)

Lower Left: This new animal control truck was designed and constructed locally. (wvcpets.com)



Lower Right: Unlicensed and off-leash pets are an ongoing challenge for animal control officials. (wvcpets.com)

are returned."

Last month, Animal Services also took possession of a new state-of-the-art truck for picking up stray pets. The improvements were designed by Beckstead and constructed by the West Valley City Facilities Department.

"Our old trucks can only handle four to six animals at a time," he said. "But the new truck has 13 kennels, along with lots of room for the tools our staff need in the field."

The agency is expecting another identical truck this summer, with more to follow as the rest of their fleet ages out of service.

"Once, when one of our facilities people was driving the truck, someone stopped him," Beckstead added. "It turned out to be an em-

ployee of another animal services agency that wanted a closer look at our design."

The new vehicles also have a much more efficient cooling system, allowing animal services drivers to remain out in the field longer with animals, even on hot summer days.

In addition to its employees, Moss said the West Valley City and Taylorsville Animal Shelter also relies on about 20 to 30 volunteers.

"They help walk the animals and keep the facility clean," he said. "We couldn't get everything done the way we do without them."

Anyone interested in volunteering should call Shelter Supervisor Kathy Schuster at 801-965-5800. ✦

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Riverton, UT 84065
(801) 254-4850

LarkinMortuary.com

Exemplary teacher awarded Huntsman award

By Jet Burnham | j.burnham@mycityjournals.com

The 2017 Huntsman Award for Excellence in Education was awarded to Barbara Hegland, who has been a teacher and advocate of special needs students at Hartvigsen School for 29 years.

Hegland believes it's her responsibility to help each student reach their potential.

"You can't look at the outside," Hegland said. "You have to look into the heart of a child to come to know what they really want and how you can help them accomplish it."

As a severe special needs teacher and team lead for secondary teachers at Hartvigsen, she strives to have a classroom where students feel successful and safe.

"I see kids that can do things, and in any way that I can I want to help them achieve their goals," she said. She follows a personal mission statement to be supportive, compassionate, enthusiastic and accountable to her students.

Jeff Honsvick, who like most of the teachers at Hartvigsen was mentored by Hegland, is inspired by her dedication.

"She goes above, above, above beyond—and farther than that—to give her kids an opportunity to do things that you wouldn't think they'd ever have the opportunity to do," he said.

Hegland involves her severely handicapped junior high and high school students in service-oriented activities such as making quilts for the homeless, writing letters to the military and sponsoring bake sales to profit charity.

"I try to get my students involved because so much is given to them that I feel they need to give back, too," she said.

Hegland also writes and adapts plays for students to perform each year. She has high expectations for her students in the classroom, on the stage and in the community.

"I believe we don't need to have our kids look handicapped, and if you expect them to be like everybody else, then they will be," she said.

Hegland's family was at the school when Karen Huntsman surprised



Barbara Hegland becomes close to her students and their families as she strives to provide them opportunities for growth. (Jet Burnham/City Journals)

Hegland with the award.

"Mere words cannot express this incredible woman—the love she has, for all that she does for parents, for students and for the environment of the school," said Huntsman.

School secretaries, teachers and parents nominated Hegland for the award.

"Everyone was just so excited to promote her because she's just amazing," Honsvick said. "Even though she's the busiest woman I've ever met, she never doesn't have a moment for you."

Hegland's extraordinary relationship with staff members is also a product of her personal mission statement in which she states she will strive to be supportive, courteous and wise in her relationships. She sees the school as a family and believes the best way to make things happen is to work together.

The staff knows that if there is a problem, Hegland is the one who will help solve it.

"She is the one everyone goes to when they need that rational, calm, listening ear," said school secretary Cynthia Halliday. "She truly, truly listens to people."

Staff and students recognize Hegland's genuine care for them. She always makes time for students who want to chat or to give her a hug when they see her. Halliday said Hegland forms close bonds with students and their families that last beyond graduation. The final line in her mission statement expresses this sentiment: "I hope the fingerprints of my service and personal values will remain in the heart of each of my students and their families."

Hegland embraces the challenges and experiences each day brings.

"It's the smiles, it's the determination, it's the dedication of each child that makes my job worth it," Hegland said.

The award came with a \$10,000 check.

"I'll spend it for good, I know that," Hegland said. "I've always wanted to do a pay-it-forward."

Hegland was very humble about being selected as one of nine teachers to receive the prestigious award.

"Outstanding and remarkable—that's not me," she said. "I personally don't like to be honored. I just want to make a difference—just let me do it quietly." ✦

Bennion students excel in academic competitions

By Jet Burnham | j.burnham@mycityjournals.com

Bennion Junior High ended the year with a busy and successful season of academic competition. Here are some highlights.

State Math Contest

Braydon Le placed fifth in the eighth-grade division at the State Math Contest. He was invited to an awards banquet where he received \$75 in prize money. Braydon was one of 15 students selected by the math department to represent Bennion in the state contest held at BYU March 17.

Participants were challenged to solve 40 complex multiple choice math problems in less than two and a half hours.

"It was a great experience for the kids to showcase what they know," said Le Vuong, a Bennion math teacher.

Once the test was over, there was an all-you-can-eat lunch buffet in the Cannon Cafeteria. Vuong said the students enjoyed getting a taste of campus life.

"They sure represented Bennion Junior High very well," Vuong said. "I am so proud of them and the way they carried themselves so well during the competition." Students representing Bennion were:

Seventh-graders: Ava Curtis, Trueman Owen, Savannah Wendelobe, Sathya Tadinada, and Josh Gilmore

Eighth-graders: Jessica Robinson, Amy Pitts, Daniel Sampson, Braydon Le and Dallas Taggart

Ninth-graders: Chloe Vuong, Maren Curtis, Chloe Robinson, Tremiti Childs and Samuel Kiguthi

MESA Day Competition

The 2017 MESA Day competition was held March 16. Nearly 250 students from various junior high and high schools came to exhibit their skills in math, engineering and science.

"The students learned a lot about building, competing, following directions, and making and completing projects," said MESA adviser



Bennion's MESA Club (Judith Hess/Bennion Jr High)

Judith Hess.

Students competed in robotics arm challenges, mouse trap cars, rotor egg drops, mystery events, straw tower building and a write it-do it exercises.

Team 1, consisting of Ashton Gilmore, Emma Draper, Sami Kiguthi and Kenneth Gordon, won the silver medal in the robotics arm challenge.

In preparation, students created pieces for the robotic arm with a 3-D printer and assembled them into a moveable hand. The project was programmed using an Arduino, a micro circuit board programmed to sense and control objects. With this technology, the thumb and all the fingers were able to react to their environment.

Team 3, Serena Wilde, Laura Parra, Yureila Rojas and Daniel Sampson, took gold in the mystery event, a math and logic problem-solving contest played like a Jeopardy game. Those same four students also earned the silver medal in the straw tower building event.

Other students who competed were:

Team 2: David Quezada, Charlie Scriver, Jason Dieu and Nyah Anderson

Team 4: Marin Curtis, Katlyn Oster, Bruce Crocket and Kate Okabe

"They all worked very hard to get ready for the competition," said Hess.

Regional History Fair

Eighth-graders from the gifted and talented U.S. History class at Bennion highlighted a person or event that changed history. They presented their research as an exhibit, a research paper, a performance or a web page. Six projects were chosen for the Salt Lake Regional History Fair held March 17.

"This program is so great in helping students 'do history,'" said Brian Fries, who teaches the U.S. history class. "It encourages them to develop a love for telling a history story."

Joshua Speth took third place in the Individual Performance category with "J.S. Bach: Taking a Stand in History."

Daniel Sampson took second place in the research paper category with his paper titled

"Wayne B. Wheeler: Taking a Stand by Passing American Prohibition."

These two winning submissions advanced to the state competition in May where Daniel's research paper took third place.

Debate Team

Bennion's debate team fought its way through competitions using various debate formats, including Oratory—a memorized seven-minute persuasive speech, Policy—a team of two in debate with another team of two, and LD (Lincoln Douglas)—a one-on-one debate. Seven members advanced to the state competition under the direction of debate coach Kathleen Smith. They were:

Joshua Speth, Oratory

Cody Romney and Ezekiel Micheel, Policy

Parker Loutensock and Joshua Gilmore, Policy

Renton Christensen, LD

Kenneth Gordon, LD—who took third in Speaker Award at the state competition. ✦





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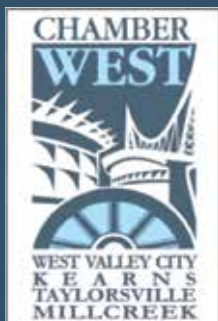
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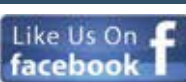
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Thank You to our Community Investment Members



Big prizes for a big heart

By Jet Burnham | j.burnham@mycityjournals.com

Charlie Scriver, an eighth-grader at Ben-nion Junior High School, was chosen out of 68,000 students as Granite School District's Absolutely Incredible Kid.

The award is given to students who overcome challenges to succeed in school and are an inspiration to their peers, said District Communications Director Ben Horsley.

Anne Black, one of Charlie's teachers, nominated Charlie because of his amazingly kind nature.

"Very rarely is there a student that comes along that goes out of their way to do kind things to everyone they meet," she said. "He never complains even though has reason to."

Another teacher, Judith Hess, said Charlie is very positive in his responses to situations and people, you'd never even guess what he is dealing with in his personal life.

Charlie said staying positive is how he's been able to get through hard things.

"I remind myself that things will get better," he said.

Charlie's family has had what his mother, Shelly Scriver, calls "a rough year." There have been family problems, health problems and problems finding a place to live. Charlie and his siblings have been sleeping in other people's homes all over the valley while trying to maintain good school attendance. Charlie has had to wake up at 4:30 a.m. to get to school by 6 a.m., which is the only time his mother can drop him off on her way from where they are living in Eagle Mountain to her job downtown.

Education has always been important to Charlie. "School has been his easy thing," said Scriver. "If he wants to learn something, he learns it." Teachers said Charlie is a hard worker. He uses his extra time in the morning for homework and maintains his spot on the honor roll.

Students say that Charlie's the smartest kid in their classes, and the nicest.

Charlie is an inspiration to others, Hess said. "I really appreciate what someone can do in spite their circumstances," Hess said. "We don't rise because of our circumstances; sometimes we rise in spite of our circumstances."

During the school charity drive, Charlie donated more than \$100, even though he doesn't have much himself. Those who know him were not surprised.

"He has a really big heart," said Scriver.

Hess said she is most impressed by Charlie's gratitude.

"He is grateful for everything," she said. "You'd never know what he is dealing with." She said he acknowledges simple things, even when she hands out candy or papers.

"He is one of the few that says thank you every single time," said Hess.

It was a surprise to the students and Charlie when Horsley

announced Charlie's award during a school assembly. His peers gave him a standing ovation and chanted his name.

Horsley told Charlie they'd wanted to arrange for him to meet celebrity Ellen DeGeneres, whom Charlie admires for her generosity, but they were unable to.

"I hope what we're about to do is special enough," Horsley told him. What came next was like an episode of Ellen as local business owners presented Charlie with a barrage of increasingly exciting gifts.

"We realize there are kids in our community that are beyond amazing and being example to others even though they may not know that. Things like that mean a lot to us," said Arvo owner Jake Nackos as he presented Charlie with an Arvo watch and other goodies. Charlie also received a skateboard and new clothes from Max Connect Marketing, a laptop from Valcom and Seven Peaks Pass of all Passes for his family. Megaplex theaters gave Charlie \$500 worth of movie passes and treats.

"In the movies, we have a lot of superheroes," said Jake Anderson, president of Megaplex. "We know that most of those superheroes are fictitious, but when I read about Charlie—we have a real superhero here." Anderson also gave Charlie a job application form.

"When you turn 16, if you want to work with us, you've got a job," said Anderson.

Granite Education Fund and Granite Credit Union presented Charlie a check for \$1,000 to start his college fund.

An avid reader, Charlie is a fan of local author Richard Paul Evans. Evans gave him an autographed set of his Michael Vey series and a VIP pass to the next book launch meet-and-greet. Evans sent a personal video to congratulate Charlie in which he likened Charlie to the hero of the Michael Vey series who exhibits great internal power.

Charlie was overwhelmed by the gifts and attention. He said he simply values "being kind, responsible and helping others when I can."

Charlie has been an inspiration to teachers, students and the community.

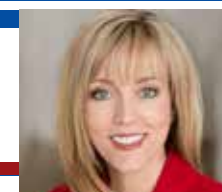
"He is an absolutely perfect example of what we can do with our lives if we really try," said Hess. ✦



Charlie Scriver gets a standing ovation from teachers and students. (Granite School District)

Salt Lake County Council's MESSAGE

Fighting for transparent processes in county mid-year budget



Aimee Winder Newton
County Council District 3

Every June, Salt Lake County goes through its mid-year budget process to true-up the projected revenues for the county, certify the official tax rates, and take care of any other housekeeping items for the County's finances. We also review requests for adjustments to our budget.

Three issues came up during this process that generated a lot of discussion among County Council members: Bonanza Flat, money from our Tourism, Recreation, Cultural, and Convention fund (TRCC), and \$47 million in transportation funds.

Bonanza Flat is a parcel of land located in the Wasatch Mountains just east of Guardsman Pass, largely in Wasatch County. Previously, the Council heard a request to appropriate \$3 million to contribute to an effort to purchase the land (valued at \$38 million) and preserve it as open space.

Protecting and preserving open space is one of my priorities on the Council. I've served as Chair of the Jordan River Commission, which has done tremendous work protecting open space along the Jordan River Parkway. I even donated personally to the effort to preserve Bonanza Flat. However, since the land is not within the jurisdiction of Salt Lake County, I felt it would be inappropriate to expend County taxpayers' dollars on it.

My Republican colleagues and I voted down this initial request, but during our June budget process Mayor McAdams' office brought the request again, this time using \$1.5 million in TRCC funds as the source. The measure eventually passed 5-4. I did not vote for this and maintained my argument that this was not a vital property for watershed (there are other properties above Deer Creek Reservoir that would be far more impactful on watershed, if we

were in the business of buying properties for this purpose).

As I've echoed in statements to the public and press, I don't approve spending county taxpayer dollars outside of the county. We have countless needs within the county, including open space and outdoor recreation, not to mention core services that the county provides.

Additionally, I was concerned with how the second request came about. We have a defined process to vet requests for TRCC funds, which happens every year during our normal fall budget cycle. Various cities bring requests for funding for a multitude of parks, recreation, or other projects that are appropriate for TRCC. We have a TRCC advisory board that hears all of these requests, weighs all the needs holistically against the finite dollars available, scores the projects, and makes a final list of recommendations to the council.

The Bonanza Flat request was brought up through a last minute TRCC board meeting the night before the item was to be heard by the county council. This prevents the TRCC board from weighing this request against all of the needs, and hampers their ability to make a recommendation based on the highest and best use of those dollars.

This alteration in the process limits our ability to make wise decisions on behalf of taxpayers.

Lastly, the council was asked to review a list of \$47 million in transportation funding allocations to various cities in the county. Some mayors cited apparent inequity in how much money was going to the different cities.

In addition to the concerns of fairness, I was concerned about

the process. It became clear that legally, the county has the authority to decide how those funds are distributed. The state legislature's list was demonstrative of their priorities and desires for how that money was to be spent. Moving forward, I hope to work with legislators to develop a more clearly defined process for how those funds are allocated.

Included in the \$47 million was a request to give \$4.7 million to the new District Attorney building construction project. The \$4.7 million was to go to a parking garage that is already fully funded, allowing \$4.7 million to then be taken out of the project and given to Sandy City to help pay for the new Hale Centre Theatre.

In essence, our council was being asked to move transportation dollars into an already fully funded project, freeing up other dollars (formerly general fund) to go to an arts project. This represented a slight of hand with taxpayer money that I was not comfortable with. Transportation dollars should go to transportation projects.

I voted to keep taxpayer money within Salt Lake County, rather than go to Bonanza Flat. I also voted against the \$47 million dollar list due to lack of a transparent process, and the included \$4.7 million effort to essentially spend transportation dollars on an arts project.

I was not on the prevailing side on these votes, but my constituents should know that their interests were represented.

Moving forward, I'll work hard with my colleagues to improve the transparency and accountability of the process of funding decisions like these.



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by
JOANI TAYLOR

When Life Becomes a Fixer Upper:

4 years ago today we learned to live without an oven. This wasn't some kind of self-inflicted new fad diet, our kitchen flooded and we decided to update the kitchen prior to fixing the floor. We had plans drawn up that included some beautiful new cabinets, flooring, and removal of a pesky wall that would make my new space gorgeous.

Well, as things go, life got in the way and we never did do the remodel. Instead, choosing to bank the floor repair money and save up so as not to have to finance the rest of it. Hence we didn't fix the oven because we knew the new plan had a different sized oven. Friends thought I must be crazy, but I found the enjoyment of having the hubby grill throughout all for seasons a nice break from the day-to-day grind of cooking dinner, and not having an oven became no big deal (for me anyway). #oven-freemovement on Facebook if you're interested in some of my ramblings about the joys of going oven free.

In the end, we did finally get it fixed after about 2 years. I personally did not see the need, but my hubby said he was craving some chocolate chip cookies that weren't from a box. The floor, however, remains slightly warped and is now quite scraped up from not bothering to have it screened routinely, I have decided to officially call my kitchen the shabby chic distressed look and added a few French inspired yard sale finds to make the image complete.

Nearly 20 years old now, our concrete is beginning to become cracked and pitted you can't walk on it in bare feet. It's actually quite nice as the extra grip it offers in the winter aids in keeping me from slipping, but the need for constant sweeping in the summer, makes the quick run out in bare feet to retrieve the mail or empty the garbage a bit of a hazard on the feet. So, I used this as an excuse to put a stylish shoe rack near the front door. I made it from an old pallet using instructions I found on Pinterest.

Our basement flooded this spring from all the rain. We aren't really sure yet what caused it, but the hubby did have an idea and made a repair. We're hoping for rain as to know for sure. In the flooding process, the furniture in the basement has been displaced because we aren't really sure if we got the leak fixed and don't want

to move it again if it isn't fixed. I have determined that the displaced furniture has an added health benefit of being a jungle gym when we have to climb over it to get to the bathroom.

Today on my morning walk, I notice that my neighbors are getting a new roof. Hum, I had just found a couple of shingles of the color of our roof while weeding the crack in the driveway. Oh boy... It has become clear to me I thought as I was jogging along (they say jogging has a way of clearing the mind). I just realized the dream home I purchased all those years ago has become a fixer-upper.

Hum... I have always imagined the joys of buying a fixer upper and turning it into my dream home. I wonder if I could get on one of those HGTV shows? I think I'll give it a shot. At least my brass doorknobs are back in style. Now if only golden oak and rose colored carpet would make a comeback. ✦




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Life AND Laughter

by
PERI KINDER



Out of Patience

Of all the things technology has disrupted, our patience has taken the biggest hit. Once we were a people who could wait four to six weeks for our Disco Fever albums to arrive from Columbia House Records, but now if our iTunes playlist takes more than 15 seconds to download, we're screaming obscenities and kicking chairs.

We've become angry, impatient individuals.

We keep saying we want patience, even pray for it, but when we get the chance to demonstrate patience, \$%&* usually hits the fan.

Remember when microwaves were a luxury? Remember when we had to chop, slice and actually cook our food on the stove? Now we don't have time for that! We want our food fast 'cause we have things to do!

When I wrote a report for school, I loaded a piece of paper in my mom's Smith Corona typewriter and typed about 13 words a minute, or until all the keys stuck together and I had to pry them apart. If I made a grammatical mistake and didn't have any white-out, I sighed and rolled in a new piece of paper to start over.

Now we type 80 words a minute—on a keyboard the size of a bar of soap—grammar be damned! Who has time for the spelling and the punctuation and the sentence structure? Not us. We've reverted to sending text messages made up entirely of images because who has time to make words?

If you had pioneer ancestors, patience should be an intricate part of your DNA. After all, these stalwart men and women walked for weeks to bring their families to Utah. They walked and walked with no distractions, barring the occasional oxen breakdown. Now we sit in traffic, honking and barking at fellow

commuters who don't move fast enough when the light turns green.

It used to be we had to wait YEARS between "Star Wars" movies. We had to wait an entire WEEK to catch up on our favorite TV show. And if we missed an episode? We were out of luck until summer reruns. Now people binge-watch entire seasons of shows in a weekend and download pirated movies before they're even in theaters.



Before cell phones, there were no middle of the night conversations unless you were lucky enough to have a pair of walkie talkies with a range of about 10 feet. But if you stuck your head out the window and leaned toward your friend's house, and if she did the same, you could almost hear each other on the walkie talkie. By that point, you could just yell across the yard to each other.

Now we're stuck to our phones having never-ending conversations by text, instant messaging, Snapchat, Twitter, Facebook, etc. But we're not saying anything. Meaningful discussions seem to have gone the way of the typewriter and handcart.

We're too busy to send handwritten thank-you notes. We don't send postcards from trips. No one knows what a treat long-distance phone calls were to grandparents. We've forgotten the tolerance we needed as the telephone line connected to the internet, making that horrible data sound that rattled your back teeth.

Patience is more than a virtue. It makes us empathetic, hopeful, optimistic and kind. It reminds us not everything has to be fast. It gives us the chance to look forward to something, like listening to the Disco Fever album from Columbia House Records, delivered by the mailman in only six weeks. ✦

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¶Previous purchases excluded. Cannot be combined with any other promotion or discount. Discount offers exclude Tempur-Pedic®, Stearns & Foster®, Sealy Optimum™ and Sealy Posturepedic Hybrid™ mattress sets, floor models, clearance items, sales tax, furniture protection plans, warranty, delivery fee, Manager's Special pricing, Advertised Special pricing, and 14 Piece Packages and cannot be combined with financing specials. SEE STORE FOR DETAILS. Southwest Furniture LLC, many times has multiple offers, promotions, discounts and financing specials occurring at the same time; these are allowed to only be used either/or and not both or combined with each other. Although every precaution is taken, errors in price and/or specification may occur in print. We reserve the right to correct any such errors. Picture may not represent item exactly as shown, advertised items may not be on display at all locations. Some restrictions may apply. Available only at participating locations. †DURABLEND® upholstery products feature a seating area made up of a combination of Polyurethane and/or PVC, Polycotton, and at least 17% Leather Shavings with a skillfully matched combination of Polycotton and Polyurethane and/or PVC everywhere else. **Leather Match upholstery features top-grain leather in the seating areas and skillfully matched vinyl everywhere else. Ashley HomeStores are independently owned and operated. ©2017 Ashley HomeStores, Ltd. Promotional Start Date: June 6, 2017. Expires: July 10, 2017.